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Charles N J Ruggiero Esq			EXAMINER	
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9th Floor Stamford, CT 06901-2682			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Discart(s)				621		
Examiner Mark Eashoo, Ph.D. 1732 173			Application No.	plicant(s)		
Mark Eashoo, Ph.D. 1732	tert (•	09/648,883	WILLIAMS ET AL.		
- The MAILING DATE of this communication app are on the cov r she t with the corr spondence address - Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extension of time may be available under the previous of 3 CFR 1.18(a). In one work, however, may a teply be timely filled after \$1X (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of the communication. The property within the statetory reinitume of their, 100 days will be considered timely. I NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expect \$10 (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of time communication. Fallade to reply whith the soft or other days from the mailing date of the communication. Fallade to reply whith the soft or other days will be considered timely. Any reply received by the Office labore, the markers mailing date of the communication, over it timely filled, may reduce a my samely peared turns deplication. Any reply received by the Office labore, the markers mailing date of the communication, over it timely filled, may reduce a my samely peared turns deplication. Any reply received by the Office labore. To reply with the advances on the periodication to be communication. This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is FINAL. 2c) This action is FINAL. 2c) This action is application in in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 45-86 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are allowed. 5b) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 5c) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 5c) Claim(s) is/are active and the application in advances are application. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filled on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. 4phication Papers 9) The period drawings are required in reply to this Of		Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit		
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of lines may be available under the provisions of 37 CPR 1.155(0). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed - If 100 period for reply a period above is less than thirty (0) days, a reply within the statutery reinfault or reply as period above. The maintenance is less than thirty (0) days, a reply within the active device of the provisions of the contracted and the provisions of the provisions of the provisions of the provisions of the communication. - If 100 period for reply a period above, the maintenance that the provisions of the provision of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). -			Mark Eashoo, Ph.D.	1732		
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be without and the provisions of 37 CPR 1.75(a). In so event, however, may a reply be timely filed Extensions of time may be without some of the provision of 37 CPR 1.75(a). In so event, however, may a reply be timely filed If the period for reply specified above is less than theiry (30) days, a reply within the stallatory previous (50) (b) MONTHS forms the mailing date of this communication. Fallware for reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statulus, cause the septileation to become ARADONED (SEU S. 5, 133). Period patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(a). Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filled on 25 August 2000: 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 45-66 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 7) Claim(s) is/are subjected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Application Papers Application Papers The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is/are: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner. 12) The coath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). *See the attached detailed Office action for domestic priority under			ars on the cov r she t with the	corr spondence address		
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Application/Control Number: 09/648,883

Art Unit: 1732

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 45-48, drawn to a process of extruding a tampon applicator, classified in class 264, subclass 1441.
- II. Claims 49-66, drawn to a polymeric composition, classified in class 525, subclass 95.

 The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions of groups II and I are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product such as one that uses injection molding or compression molding.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

A telephone call was made to the office of applicant's attorney on 03-JUN-2002 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made. The office of applicant's attorney requested a written restriction.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

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Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Eashoo, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (703) 308-3606. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am-3pm, Monday- Friday (alternate Fridays off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jan Silbaugh can be reached on (703) 308-3829. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9310 for regular communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Mark Eashoo, Ph.D.

Primary Examiner

04/J-2102

Art Unit 1732

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June 4, 2002